

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 20, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 29, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 14, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 10, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 1, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 18, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 6, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 11, 2010

## **SENATE BILL**

**No. 970**

**Introduced by Senator Corbett**

**(Coauthor: Senator Hancock)**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Fong, Mendoza, Saldaña, and Swanson)

February 5, 2010

---

An act to add and repeal Article 6 (commencing with Section 12290) to Chapter 3 of Division 12 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 970, as amended, Corbett. ~~Preelection day~~ *Vote by mail* voting.

Existing law generally requires voters who wish to vote and who do not cast their ballots by mail to cast their ballot at the precinct polling place on election day.

This bill would permit, until December 31, 2016, the Secretary of State, in conjunction with the county elections officials, the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges, to select 3 college campuses, one each within

the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges, to serve as ~~preelection day polling places~~ *vote by mail ballot dropoff locations* for any precinct in the county's jurisdiction during at least one general election. The bill would require voluntary consent from the local elections official within whose jurisdiction a ~~preelection day voting polling place~~ *vote by mail ballot dropoff location* would be located ~~for preelection day voting to take place in that jurisdiction~~. The bill would require that the ~~preelection day polling places~~ *vote by mail ballot dropoff locations* be ~~open~~ *available* to receive votes on the 5 business days preceding election day. The bill would require each county elections official who has a ~~preelection day polling place~~ *vote by mail ballot dropoff location* within his or her jurisdiction during an election to report to the Legislature and the Secretary of State regarding the use of the ~~preelection day voting polling place~~ *vote by mail ballot dropoff location* within 6 months of the date of the election. The Secretary of State would then be required to report to the Legislature regarding an assessment of ~~early voting designated~~ *vote by mail ballot dropoff locations* on college campuses by examining the participation in the program and the costs to the state for implementing the program.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) ~~Preelection day voting on college campuses will allow~~
- 4 ~~college students more time~~ *Vote by mail ballot dropoff locations*
- 5 *on college campuses will provide college students a more*
- 6 *convenient way to vote and thereby more effectively manage their*
- 7 *busy class schedules.*
- 8 (b) Research findings show that the younger a voter becomes
- 9 engaged in the political process, the more likely he or she will
- 10 remain an active participant in our democratic system of
- 11 government.
- 12 SEC. 2. Article 6 (commencing with Section 12290) is added
- 13 to Chapter 3 of Division 12 of the Elections Code, to read:

Article 6. ~~Preelection Day Voting Polling Places on College~~  
~~Campuses Designated Vote by Mail Ballot Dropoff Locations~~

12290. (a) For at least one general election from January 1, 2011, but prior to December 31, 2016, the Secretary of State, in conjunction with the county elections officials, the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges, may establish ~~preelection day voting polling places~~ *designated dropoff locations for vote by mail ballots* on three college campuses in the state, subject to the following conditions:

(1)

(a) One of the college campuses shall be within the University of California. The campus selected must have at least 20,000 registered students at the time of selection.

(2)

(b) One of the college campuses shall be within the California State University. The campus selected must have at least 13,000 registered students at the time of selection.

(3)

(c) One of the college campuses shall be within the California Community Colleges. The campus selected must have at least 10,000 registered students at the time of selection.

~~(4) Preelection day voting shall not take place absent the voluntary consent of the local elections official within whose jurisdiction a preelection day voting polling place would be located.~~

~~(b) Each college campus selected to be a preelection day voting polling place shall serve as the polling place for any precinct in the county's jurisdiction.~~

12291. A ~~preelection day voting polling place~~ *designated vote by mail ballot dropoff location* established pursuant to Section 12290 shall be ~~open~~ *available* during the five business days prior to the date of the election. ~~The preelection day voting polling place shall be considered a satellite location of the office of the elections official under subdivision (b) of Section 3018 and shall comply with all the requirements of that section.~~

~~12292. A preelection day voting polling place may not be established for any election other than a general election as it applies to the pilot program in this article. To maintain the security of the ballots, a designated vote by mail ballot dropoff location~~

1 *shall be placed in a secure location that is centrally located on*  
2 *the campus. The county elections officials shall retrieve any ballots*  
3 *returned to a designated vote by mail ballot dropoff location*  
4 *nightly. The Secretary of State shall provide implementation*  
5 *instructions to participating counties that address ballot security*  
6 *and assurances that the vote by mail ballot dropoff locations shall*  
7 *be utilized solely by eligible voters in the participating county.*

8 ~~12293.~~

9 ~~12292.~~ (a) Each county elections official who has a ~~preelection~~  
10 ~~day voting polling place~~ *designated vote by mail ballot dropoff*  
11 *location* within his or her jurisdiction during an election shall report  
12 to the Legislature and the Secretary of State regarding the election  
13 within six months after the date of the election as it applies to ~~the~~  
14 ~~pilot program in this article~~ *a designated vote by mail ballot dropoff*  
15 *location*. This report shall include, at a minimum, statistics  
16 regarding the cost of ~~a preelection day voting polling place~~, the  
17 ~~turnout of voters at the preelection day voting polling place~~, and  
18 ~~any problems with preelection day voting polling place voting that~~  
19 ~~has the designated vote by mail ballot dropoff location~~, *the number*  
20 *of ballots returned to a designated vote by mail ballot dropoff*  
21 *location, and any problems with a designated vote by mail ballot*  
22 *dropoff location that have been made known to the elections*  
23 *official.*

24 (b) After receiving the reports from the county elections officials  
25 pursuant to subdivision (a) but not later than eight months after  
26 the date of the election, the Secretary of State shall report to the  
27 Legislature regarding an assessment of ~~early voting~~ *designated*  
28 *vote by mail ballot dropoff locations* on college campuses by  
29 examining the participation in the program as well as the costs to  
30 the state for implementing this article on these ~~two~~ *three* campuses.

31 ~~12294.~~

32 ~~12293.~~ This article shall remain in effect only until December  
33 31, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted  
34 statute, that is enacted before December 31, 2016, deletes or  
35 extends that date.